IN THE CLAIMS:

This version of the claims replaces and supercedes all prior versions of the claims.

- 1. (Currently Amended) A voice detecting method discriminating a voice section from a non-voice section for every fixed time length for a voice signal comprising the steps of:
 - (a) calculating a feature quantity from said voice signal input;
- (b) calculating a change quantity from said feature quantity, said change quantity corresponds to a variation in time of said feature quantity;
- (c)discriminating the voice section from the non-voice section, using a long-time average of said change quantity, said long-time average of said change quantity is obtained by inputting said change quantity to filters; and
- (d) repeating steps (a)-(c) for every fixed time length in the voice signal using feature quantity calculated from said voice signal input for every fixed time length, characterized in that the voice section is discriminated from the non-voice section for every fixed time length in the voice signal, and using a long-time average of change quantities, obtained by inputting the change quantities, which correspond to the variation in time of the feature quantity, to filters.
- 2. (Currently Amended) A voice detecting method recited in claim 1, wherein the change quantities quantity of said feature quantity [[are]] is calculated by using said feature quantity and a said long-time average thereof.